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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 07MANAGUA2287, LIBERAL UNITY MOVES FORWARD

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#07MANAGUA2287**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
07MANAGUA2287	2007-10-09 15:55	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Managua

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758456.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758467.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758468.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758464.aspx>
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<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4102/estrada-y-la-ldquo-doble-cara-rdquo-ante-ee-uu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3966/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-ee-uu-en-el-2006>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2758764.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2758753.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4041/millones-de-dolares-sin-control-y-a-discrecion>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4040/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-venezuela-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4047/rodrigo-barreto-enviado-de-ldquo-vacaciones-rdquo>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2757239.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2746658.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2757244.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2746673.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3991/dra-yadira-centeno-desmiente-cable-diplomatico-eeuu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3968/pellas-pronostico-a-eeuu-victoria-de-ortega-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3967/barreto-era-ldquo-fuente-confiable-rdquo-para-eeuu>

PP RUEHLMC
DE RUEHMU #2287 2821555
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 091555Z OCT 07
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1453
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUMIAAA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 002287

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/05/2017
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [KDEM](#) [NU](#)
SUBJECT: LIBERAL UNITY MOVES FORWARD

REF: MANAGUA 2246

Classified By: Ambassador Paul Trivelli, reason 1.4 (b) and (d)

- - - -
Summary
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¶1. (C) Members of several Nicaraguan opposition parties came together on October 4 to pledge their support for a new "National Unity Alliance." It is too early to tell if this new grouping will be the catalyst for building a strong united opposition to the Sandinista regime of President Ortega. The challenge for the Alliance is now to replicate itself at the municipal level. If indeed the Nicaraguan opposition can bridge their divisions to create a united, pro-democratic and anti-corrupt opposition, we should be prepared to help substantially in their efforts to secure a more democratic future for Nicaragua. End summary.

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Flags waving
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¶2. (U) On October 4, more than a thousand jubilant supporters of the democratic cause gathered in an overflowing Managua conference hall, to welcome the formation of a new "National Unity Alliance." To shouts of "unity, unity, unity," supporters waved flags and cheered the cross-party collection of opposition politicians. Most members of the crowd were evidently supporters of the Liberal Alliance of Nicaragua (ALN), but in the sea of flags there were several red banners of the Constitutional Liberal Party (PLC), and green flags of the Conservative Party (PC).

¶3. (U) ALN president Eduardo Montealegre was joined on the stage by leaders of several of the smaller parties in the ALN alliance. However, prominent members of the PLC on stage -- Jose Rizo, Jose Alvarado, and Enrique Quinonez -- were careful to make clear that they were signing the unity Manifesto in a "personal capacity," not as representatives of their party. The crowd reserved its most thunderous applause for Montealegre and Quinonez.

¶4. (C) Despite the happy show, there exists lingering doubt that this "Unity Alliance" will translate into a lasting alliance to defeat the Sandinistas. "This could be the start of a snowball effect," Jose Rizo's private secretary Alejandro Reyes told us. "At least, I hope it's not just a 'photo-op.'" Conservative Party leader Azalia Aviles told us on October 5 that this was a "great start," but that the challenge will be to build the Alliance at the municipal level -- that kind of work takes significant time and

resources. She noted the inclusion of high profile figures from the PLC, such as Rizo, Alvarado and Quinonez, should help draw more support for the Alliance on the local level from Liberals frustrated with ex-President Aleman's "pacto" with Ortega. Aviles also reported that the "Unity Alliance" is reaching out to the anti-Ortega Sandinista Renovation Movement party (MRS) and the Nicaraguan Resistance Party (PRN). The timing of when either would join is still up in the air, and the PLC members participating in the Alliance are resisting an official role for the MRS. Aviles and a number of other signers will begin traveling this weekend outside Managua to promote the new Alliance.

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Comment
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15. (C) There appears to be a real desire from the non-Sandinista majority in Nicaragua to see the national opposition leaders put their squabbles behind them. The October 4 creation of a Unity Alliance could be the first step in building a strong opposition free from the dominance of the corruption and caudillismo represented by former president and convicted felon Arnaldo Aleman. However, to move the Alliance beyond a re-grouping of the parties at the national leadership level into a functioning alliance at the local level that can compete in next year's municipal elections, they are going to need additional resources and support.
TRIVELLI